

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 BIB-01 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 IO-13 AF-10 EA-10
NEA-10 /127 W
-----013203 081149Z /14

R 080647Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6875
INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
USINT HAVANA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USBERLIN

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, GE
SUBJECT: COMMUNIST WORLD YOUTH FRONT ORGANIZATION HOLDS
CONGRESS IN EAST BERLIN

1. UNDER THE SLOGAN "FOR ANTI-IMPERIALIST SOLIDARITY,
PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP" THE WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC
YOUTH (WBDJ) HELD ITS 10TH GENERAL SESSION IN EAST BERLIN
FEB. 21 TO MARCH 2. THE CONGRESS CLAIMED REPRESENTATIVES
FROM 130 COUNTRIES BUT ONLY IDENTIFIED 25 NATIONAL
DELEGATIONS PLUS A DELEGATION OF "FREE GERMAN YOUTH OF
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WEST BERLIN." THE CONGRESS RECEIVED MESSAGES OF GOOD
WILL FROM A LIST INCLUDING SUCH LIMINARIES AS BREZHNEV,
PHAM VAN DONG AND GUS HALL. THE BULK OF THE CONGRESS
WAS TAKEN UP WITH MEETINGS, SEMINARS, SOLIDARITY
SESSIONS AND VARIOUS CELEBRATORY EXTRAVAGANZAS IN BERLIN
AND DRESDEN. PREDICTABLY, IN ITS RESOLUTIONS AND AGREED
DOCUMENTS THE WBDJ CONDEMNED IMPERIALIST, RACIST,

COLONIALIST, CAPITALIST AND OTHER EXPLOITATIVE ACTIVITIES OF ALL KINDS CONCENTRATING ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEUTRON BOMB, WESTERN ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST AND NATO ARMAMENTS PROGRAMS. IT EXPRESSED SOLIDARITY AND SUPPORT FOR VARIOUS LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND FORESAW THE ULTIMATE TRIUMPH OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM.

2. THE CONGRESS ALSO ELECTED NEW LEADERS. THE NEW WBDJ PRESIDENT IS ERNESTO OTTONE, A CHILEAN FORMERLY ACTIVE IN THE CHILEAN COMMUNIST YOUTH AND STUDENT MOVEMENT WHO IS REPORTED TO HAVE DEPARTED HIS COUNTRY SHORTLY BEFORE ALLENDE'S FALL. THE NEW GENERAL SECRETARY IS MIKLOS BARABAS OF HUNGARY. MUCH OF THE FORMAL WORK OF THE CONGRESS WAS IN ANTICIPATION OF THE UPCOMING XI WORLD JAMBOUREE OF YOUTH AND STUDENTS IN HAVANA.

3. ALL EAST GERMAN MEDIA GAVE THE CONGRESS EXTENSIVE ATTENTION THROUGHOUT ITS DURATION CONCENTRATING ON THE OPENING AND CLOSING SESSIONS WHICH WERE ATTENDED BY ERICH HONECKER AND MEMBERS OF THE EAST GERMAN LEADERSHIP. HOWEVER, BRIEF DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING THE WBDJ CONGRESS WITH SEVERAL YOUNG EAST GERMAN CONTACTS ELICITED A DECIDED LACK OF INTEREST IN EITHER ITS EXISTENCE OR ITS ACTIVITIES. BOLEN
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: YOUTH, COMMUNIST FRONT ORGANIZATIONS, IMPERIALISM
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BERLIN01642
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780104-0190
Format: TEL
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780395/aaaadcac.tel
Line Count: 94
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d7d597cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3409720
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMUNIST WORLD YOUTH FRONT ORGANIZATION HOLDS CONGRESS IN EAST BERLIN
TAGS: PINT, GC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d7d597cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014